



# Surf Pines Breeze

Newsletter of the Surf Pines Association

October 2012 Vol. XIX, No. 1

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## President's Comments



By Brian Radditz



Wow, it's early fall and what a great time of year to live in Surf Pines. Thanks to roads and grounds committee members for the work on our damaged trees and John Gates for mowing. Our neighborhood has never looked better.

I know many of you hoped you had heard the last from me after our annual meeting but the new board decided to elect me president again. They gave me one more year to fix everything I goofed up during my first term. We decided to continue with quarterly board meetings which are Sep 14, Dec 7, Mar 8, and Jun 7. These dates are all on Fridays at 4:00pm at the meeting house. Please join us if you can.

At our September 14 board meeting we discussed the probability of canceling all existing gate codes and issuing new ones for security reasons. We also discussed hunters and wounded elk on Surf Pines property, window identification stickers, administrator duties, and our new website. Our newly elected directors were positive contributors to our conversations. Thanks to you for electing good candidates. Jeff Hall reported that the new website has over 100 registered users and growing. Until next time, enjoy this beautiful time of year on the North Coast.

## ***O Come All Ye Faithful - Party goes...***

by Katie Weber

It's getting to be that time of the year when we plan our Holiday Party. This year our party will be Saturday, December 1, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Our hosts this year are Michael and Liz Steszyn. Their home is at 90002 Manion Drive. We hope you can all come and meet our new neighbors. They have owned their home for several years but do not live here on a permanent basis. I'm sure they'd love to meet you too.

As usual, we ask that you bring your own adult beverage and a favorite appetizer, side dish, salad or dessert. The CRC will supply the turkey, ham, salmon, soft drinks and water.

Please mark your calendar today so you don't miss this wonderful event.

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### Real Estate

by Karen Radditz



There are currently sixteen homes and seventeen lots for sale in Surf Pines. Five of the homes are Sale Pending.

89672 Sea Breeze pending at \$229,000

33077 Malarkey pending at \$625,000 additional lot also pending at \$125,000

89846 Ocean Drive pending at

399,000 (foreclosure)

89434 Manion Dr. pending at 324,500 (foreclosure)

89780 Manion Dr. pending at 169,900 (foreclosure)

The three homes that are bank foreclosures have been on the market for a substantial amount of time. We have had eight foreclosures in Surf Pines this year alone. The other twelve active listings range in price from \$1,350,000 to \$370,000. It's a great time to purchase a home in Surf Pines.

Good News, there have been six sales in Surf Pines since June of 2012. Three Lots, one on the corner of High Surf and Manion sold for \$70,000, one in front of the yellow house on Manion for \$65,000, and Ocean Drive at the far north end for \$210,000.

Homes that have sold since June:

90023 Manion (foreclosure) sold for \$300,500

89463 Manion \$379,000 (purchased 3 years ago for \$445,000)

89500 Manion for \$349,500 (estate)

Currently we are seeing a bump up in our coastal housing market. It's pretty exciting after three years of a lack luster market.

Homes and land that are For Sale by Owner are not mentioned in this column. If you wish to be included please contact me with your information. This information is solely based on CMLS statistics and information. Information is available to the public, as a matter of public record.

## Security Corner

by John and Carol Gates



With the approach of fall, please winterize your homes. Disconnect your hoses, cover your faucets, and turn up your heat a little if you will be gone for extended periods.

Summer has passed and the amount of traffic has decreased in Surf Pines, unfortunately those that continue to speed persist. The Board has purchased a radar gun to identify speeding on our roads. Those who continue to break our speed limits will be notified.

Illegal hunting has again caused problems in Surf Pines. There are hunters who have shot game on outlying properties and tracked them into Surf Pines. This behavior is considered trespassing and the hunters have been confronted. In one case an elk was spotted by residents with an arrow in its side. The elk was observed for many days and ultimately euthanized by a State Game Officer when it was determined it would not survive. If you see anyone that appears to be hunting or tracking animals within our gates call me immediately.

On September 12, a resident reported that shots were being fired from the beach dunes toward his house. The sheriff responded and it was discovered that a couple on the beach was firing an assault rifle toward the ocean and the dunes. Sergeant Mark Whisler confiscated their weapon and issued citations. Luckily no one was injured in this incident.

Reports of loose dogs continue and repeatedly, these are the same animals running off-leash and out of control of their owners. After a warning, owners who do not control their dogs are reported to Animal Control. Animal Control will issue tickets to non-compliant owners. Please contact Animal Control directly to report nuisance dogs.

Many of our residents do not have their address stakes visible from the road. Address stakes are available through the county and serve to make it easier for emergency first responders to locate an address. This is very important for full-time and part-time residents.

I would like to personally thank our resident Law Enforcement Officers living in Surf Pines. They go above and beyond to help with our security.

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## Thank You

A big thank you to all the dog owners who clean up after their dogs. Everyone who uses our narrow roadways, including: pedestrians, joggers, bicyclists, power walkers, etc. appreciate your efforts. Often times we find ourselves on the edges of the roads as motorists pass where unfortunate surprises can be hiding.

## New Website

The new website is up and running with over 100 registered users. If you have not already registered as a resident, now is the time to check out all the information available about our neighborhood. If you have misplaced or did not receive a registration code contact Jeff Hall at [jlh434@mac.com](mailto:jlh434@mac.com) to receive one. The new website uses the same URL as the former site <http://www.surfpines.org>. Recent committee meeting agendas and minutes are posted to assure that you have the information you need to understand how your quarterly homeowner and land owner fees are being used. Check **News/Blogs** under **News/Events** to stay current on what other members are saying and post your own comment or reply to blogs. For example, when there is a coyote on your driveway, post a blog to inform other residents. The community events calendar includes committee and board meetings, community gatherings, clamming season dates, etcetera. On the **Home** page view the local weather forecast and tide tables. When you log-in as a resident member the Owner's Guide documents (Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, SPA and Board Policies) are available and printable. Helpful community phone numbers are under **Contact Us**. You will also find this issue and past issues of the *Breeze*. This issue and all future issues of the *Breeze* include color photos on the web. The Surf Pines Directory is also available.

Access the opt out form by clicking on **Contact Us**. Selecting this enables members to opt out of receiving mailed copies of the Owner's Guide, Surf Pines Directory, and the *Breeze* to help reduce paper and save the association money. When you opt out you will receive an email indicating whenever any of these documents are updated.

## Annual Meeting



Two new board members, Susan Holloway and Dave Butler, were elected to the board to replace outgoing members, Burr Allegaert and Russ Keizer. The annual budget was approved. The new website was introduced by Jeff Hall. Burr Allegaert received a special award of recognition for his many years of volunteer service to Surf Pines. Don Kruger was presented with a new fishing pole for his dedicated service.



## Sunset Lake Meeting

by Robin Rhodes

The Sunset Lake Community Association would like to invite all to attend our reorganization meeting at the Surf Pines Meeting House, Saturday, November 3, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. All Surf Pines residents and property owners surrounding Neacoxie Lake (Sunset Lake) are invited to attend to openly discuss the health and issues regarding our lake. Please contact, Robin Rhodes, 503-738-5208, if there are any questions.

## Report Hunting in Surf Pines

During hunting season, remember that hunting of any kind is prohibited in Surf Pines. Any hunting should be reported to John Gates (503-298-7911), the security manager, who reports the hunting, in turn, to the Oregon State Police, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Surf Pines Board. Do not confront a hunter. Do not endanger yourself. Obtain as complete a description as possible of the hunter and the occurrence of hunting, including the time and place.



By Greg Hutzell

Recently, on one of our glorious sunny days, I was parked in the Safeway parking lot waiting for my wife Chris. As is typical for me, I was started looking for birds to watch. On this particular day, rather than an assortment of gulls in the parking lot, I observed a small murder of crows walking about looking for anything edible. A car slowly eased by and as if on cue, a young girl and boy leaned out the car window and deliberately tossed several crackers to the crows. There was a brief hesitation, creating a safe distance between the car and the crackers. Three of the five crows casually walked up to the crackers. The other two seemed leery and only ventured forward once the three safely had food in beak. Up to that point, their behavior was to be expected and nothing especially interesting in terms of crow behavior. If I had looked away I would have missed something quite interesting.

Near the crows was a small pool of water that had collected in a depression on the pavement. One of the crows began placing a cracker in the water. The crow pushed the cracker about until it was soft enough to consume. Actions that are deliberate performed by animals offer a glimpse into their thought processes. In those moments, we can see them adding one and one to equal two. This vision into their world shows learning by observation, as well as trial and error.



Crows are in the avian family, Corvidae, which includes ravens, jays, nutcrackers, and magpies. Technically, the corvids are passerines, song birds and perching birds, such as sparrows, robins, chickadees, and finches, but their behaviors and vocalization are especially unique. As for their song, we don't find their insistent, repetitive Caw! Caw! Caw! or Jay! Jay! Jay! as music to our ears. Yet, their behavior is inquisitive, crafty, emotional, smart and shows evidence of new learning. Corvids as a group assume characteristics that were once attributed only to humans, including self-recognition, insight, revenge, tool use, mental time travel, deceit, murder, language, play, calculated risk-taking, social learning, and traditions. We have a long history with them as evidenced through our literature, art, science, legend and myth. We recognize the

intelligence and adaptability of this unique group of birds and have come to base every thesis about their humanlike behaviors on how the brain of a bird is known to function.

As an example, picture a crow in a small enclosure and perched on a rod. On a short string hanging from the rod some food has been tied. The challenge for the bird is to obtain the food since grasping it in flight is not possible. To obtain the food, the bird reached down to grip the string, pull the loop of string up, then placed the loop on the perch and stepped on it. It could then release the string from its beak and reach further down the string for several additional pulls and steps. In planning, sequencing and problem solving, it obtains the prize.

Whether in the city or the natural landscape of Surf Pines, we often take for granted and assume certain behaviors from the animals around us. If I've learning anything in my years of casual observation of the natural world, it is to do the opposite. It is better to observe with an open mind, patience and to expect the unexpected. Certainly, with crows and the other corvids, remarkable sights and sounds are likely to occur.

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# Community, Community, Community....

## The Results Are In

by Katie Weber

Surf Pines had another wonderful year for the annual Garage Sale and Picnic. There were twenty-six homes signed up for the Garage Sale and the reports that came in said it was the best year ever. Not only did everyone clean out their treasures from their homes, they made money to boot. A big thank you to all who participated this year. The sale would not have been so successful without you.



The Garage Sale will fall on the weekend after July 4 next year. Please mark your calendar. For two years in a row, John Gates has received a call from someone in Canada asking if and when our annual Garage Sale would be held. I love to hear people like to come to Surf Pines to shop.



We had another successful picnic this year. The weather could not have been better. We were blessed with blue skies and it was warm for the duration. There were approximately eighty-five attendees and several children showed up this year. We love to have the children come

to eat the hotdogs and ice cream. Our thanks to our great cooks, Lee Casaleggio and George Hawes. We also want to thank their sous chefs Colleen and Kathy, who were great assistants and relief cooks. Also, a hearty thanks to all who brought their favorite picnic fare to share. Next year, I think we will need another pot of baked beans. Lucia, your beans were wonderful and disappeared really fast. Thank you to John and Carol Gates for all their help delivering and setting up for the

picnic. Also, they did a fantastic job preparing the park for all of us to enjoy. Next year, the annual picnic will fall on the Sunday, July 7 and Saturday, July 6 is the date for the Garage Sale.



Surf Pines has ten large round tables and 100 chairs for anyone to use for a small fee. With the holidays coming up and maybe family reunions or picnics in your own back yard it might be a good idea to reserve your tables or chairs now.

Thanks again to everyone who participated in the events this year. It's been fun and we'll do it again next July.



## Slow Down for Safety: Children and School Buses

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School buses are once again picking up and dropping off children in Surf Pines. Please keep in mind as you navigate your cars and trucks on our narrow roads that there are sleepy children waiting on the dark edges. There will be the occasional ones running late for the bus in the morning and excited ones running for home in the afternoons. The speed limit in Surf Pines is 25 MPH and supports safety for all who share the roads.

### Surf Pines Association

#### **Board**

President	Brian Radditz	33250 Silverspot Lane	861-0190	<a href="mailto:bradditz@yahoo.com">bradditz@yahoo.com</a>
Vice-President	Norman Tutton	89509 Manion Dr	717-0958	<a href="mailto:tuttonbeach@gmail.com">tuttonbeach@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Dave Butler	89841 Sea Breeze Dr	440-5083	<a href="mailto:dave.wine.butler@gmail.com">dave.wine.butler@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Susan Holloway	3619 SE Francis St Portland OR 97202	706-5860	<a href="mailto:susan.holloway@comcast.net">susan.holloway@comcast.net</a>
Director	Norma Keever	89026 Ocean Dr	738-5069	<a href="mailto:gnkeever@msn.com">gnkeever@msn.com</a>

#### **Administration**

Administrator	Debbie Eddy (Interim)			
Bookkeeper	Debbie Eddy		717-2535	<a href="mailto:debeddy0425@msn.com">debeddy0425@msn.com</a>
Security	John Gates	33317 Surf Pines Lane	738-0637 298-7911	<a href="mailto:gates7299@hotmail.com">gates7299@hotmail.com</a>

#### **Committees**

Roads & Grounds	Don Kruger	90128 Manion Dr	861-3815	<a href="mailto:dnkruger@msn.com">dnkruger@msn.com</a>
Community Relations	Katie Weber Bonnie Rogie	89783 Sea Breeze Dr 89825 Surf Pines Landing Dr	738-5986 717-1003	<a href="mailto:kkweber1@yahoo.com">kkweber1@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:brogie1@verizon.net">brogie1@verizon.net</a>
Vacation Rental	To be determined			

The Surf Pines Breeze is a quarterly publication of The Surf Pines Association  
33317 Surf Pines Lane, Warrenton, Oregon 97146  
Members are invited to contribute articles. Contact Jeff Hall at [jlh434@mac.com](mailto:jlh434@mac.com).